



Indiana Communities to be Offered Energy Efficiency Plans

State Grant Will Help Smaller Hoosier Cities and Towns Plan for Energy Efficiency

For Immediate Release

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(Indianapolis) – Lt. Governor Becky Skillman announced today a program allowing small cities and towns to create energy efficiency plans.

The Community Energy Plan program will provide cities and towns an energy audit and energy plan development free of charge.

The CEP program is available to incorporated cities and towns below 35,000 in population, or counties below 200,000 in population. The funds for this program come from the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program. Community eligibility is determined by USDOE.

“The first step to any energy efficiency program is an energy audit,” said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman who oversees the Office of Energy Development. “This program will benefit those smaller communities that want to find cost savings through energy efficiency, but could not afford that first step.”

The CEP Program will provide a comprehensive inventory of all the local government's energy usage. This includes but is not limited to buildings, fleets, streetlights and wastewater treatment facilities. The audit will identify potential energy savings and potential measures to attain those savings. The plan developed for the communities will offer suggestions on how the energy efficiency efforts can be incorporated in all levels of the community's decision-making process.

Following the completion of the plan, the program will also offer community and stakeholder meetings in those communities to present the plan and to raise awareness about ways to increase energy efficiency throughout the community.

Applications for this competitive grant program will be accepted online April 27-May 27, 2011. Those communities chosen for the program will receive a comprehensive energy audit by a third party vendor. The vendor will then work with each community to develop an individualized energy efficiency plan. This work is expected to begin in June 2011 and be finished by the end of the year.

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The Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in December 2005 as an extension of the Indiana energy office. Under the leadership of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, OED is responsible for the state's energy policy. For more information visit www.energy.in.gov. or follow OED on twitter, IndianaEnergy.

For updates from the Lt. Governor and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.in.gov/lg/